

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 06843 01 OF 02 051518Z
ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 OES-07
DOE-15 SOE-02 NRC-05 /104 W
-----027003 051531Z /53

O 051500Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9246
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 06843

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, US, UR, CCD
SUBJECT: US-USSR CHEMICAL WEAPONS NEGOTIATIONS, SEVENTH
ROUND: JOINT STATEMENT TO CCD ON STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS

CW MESSAGE NO. 53

1. US AND USSR DELS MET ON AFTERNOON OF MAY 5 TO DISCUSS
JOINT STATEMENT TO CCD ON STATUS OF BILATERAL CW NEGOTIA-
TIONS. SOVIET SIDE HAD EARLIER PROPOSED DROPPING ALL
REFERENCE IN STATEMENT TO "DISPOSITION OF THE PRODUCTION
BASE FOR CHEMICAL MUNITIONS AND CHEMICALS COVERED BY THE
CONVENTION." US HAD MADE COUNTER-PROPOSAL TO RETAIN
REFERENCES TO THIS ISSUE BUT TO USE PHRASE "DISPOSITION
OF MEANS OF PRODUCTION FOR CHEMICAL MUNITIONS AND
CHEMICALS COVERED BY THE CONVENTION." IN VIEW OF U.S. DEL
SUCH WORDING PROTECTS U.S. POSITION AND ACCURATELY REFLECTS
A MAJOR ISSUE YET TO BE RESOLVED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 06843 01 OF 02 051518Z

2. IN MAY 5 MEETING SOVIETS INDICATED COMPLETE ACCEPTANCE
OF U.S. COUNTER-PROPOSAL WHICH RESULTED IN AGREEMENT ON
STATEMENT. JOINT STATEMENT WILL BE PRESENTED BY SOVIET
REP (AMBASSADOR LIKHATCHEV) TO CCD IN PLENARY MEETING
ON MAY 9.

3. TEXT OF JOINT STATEMENT AS AGREED FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

IN ITS RESOLUTION 32/77 OF DECEMBER 12, 1977, ON THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS, THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY STRESSED THE NEED FOR EARLY SUBMISSION OF A JOINT INITIATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT IN ORDER TO ASSIST IT IN ACHIEVING EARLY AGREEMENT ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, AND STOCKPILING OF ALL CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION. THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION RECOGNIZE THAT THIS RESOLUTION REFLECTS THE DESIRE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO ACHIEVE SUCH AN AGREEMENT AND THAT THIS TASK IS A HIGH PRIORITY ITEM OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT.

ALONG WITH THE WORK OF THIS PROBLEM IN THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT, SINCE AUGUST 1976, THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION HAVE CONDUCTED BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH A VIEW TO DEVELOPING A JOINT INITIATIVE ON THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND INTRODUCING IT IN THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT. ON JANUARY 10, 1978, THE SEVENTH ROUND OF BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS BEGAN IN GENEVA, AND IT STILL CONTINUES. THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 06843 01 OF 02 051518Z

INTENSIVELY, THE DELEGATIONS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVING HELD NUMEROUS PLENARY AND DRAFTING GROUP MEETINGS.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION BELIEVE THAT THE FUTURE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS SHOULD MEET THE OBJECTIVE OF COMPLETE, EFFECTIVE, AND VERIFIABLE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS, AS WELL AS PROVIDING FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS. DISCUSSIONS ON THE DISPOSITION OF MEANS OF PRODUCTION FOR CHEMICAL MUNITIONS AND CHEMICALS COVERED BY THE CONVENTION CONTINUE.

PROGRESS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN THE AREA OF SCOPE OF THE PROHIBITION. AS A RESULT OF ACCOMMODATION BY BOTH SIDES, AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE HAS NOW EMERGED ON MOST, ALTHOUGH NOT ALL, POINTS IN THIS AREA. BOTH SIDES SHARE THE OPINION OF THE MAJORITY OF CCD MEMBERS THAT THE PRINCIPAL CRITERION IN DETERMINING THE SCOPE OF THE PROHIBITION SHOULD BE THE GENERAL PURPOSE CRITERION. UNDER THAT CRITERION, SPECIFIC CHEMICALS WOULD BE PROHIBITED TO THE EXTENT THEY HAVE NO JUSTIFICATION FOR INDUSTRIAL,

RESEARCH OR OTHER NON-HOSTILE CIVILIAN PURPOSES, FOR
NON-HOSTILE MILITARY PURPOSES, IN PARTICULAR PROTECTIVE
PURPOSES, OR FOR MILITARY PURPOSES NOT RELATED TO
CHEMICAL WARFARE. BOTH SIDES HAVE ALSO REACHED THE VIEW
THAT FOR THE PURPOSE OF FACILITATING VERIFICATION, IT
WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO USE TWO TOXICITY CRITERIA AND
CERTAIN OTHER PROVISIONS IN ADDITION TO THE GENERAL
PURPOSE CRITERION.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION ARE IN AGREEMENT
THAT THE CONVENTION SHOULD CONTAIN PROVISIONS CLEARLY

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 06843 02 OF 02 051522Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 GENEVA 06843

SPECIFYING THE PROCEDURE FOR DECLARING CHEMICAL WEAPONS
STOCKPILES. SOME SPECIFICS OF SUCH A PROCEDURE HAVE BEEN
AGREED IN PRINCIPLE. BOTH SIDES AGREE THAT STATES PARTIES
TO THE FUTURE CONVENTION SHOULD ALSO MAKE DECLARATIONS
RELATING TO THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION OF CHEMICAL MUNITIONS
AND CHEMICALS COVERED BY THE CONVENTION, BUT THE ACTUAL
CONTENT OF SUCH DECLARATIONS IS UNDER CONTINUED NEGOTIA-
TION. MEASURES RELATING TO THE DISPOSITION OF THOSE
MEANS OF PRODUCTION ALSO REQUIRE FURTHER NEGOTIATION.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION BELIEVE THAT
THE FULFILLMENT OF THE OBLIGATIONS ASSUMED UNDER THE
FUTURE CONVENTION SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTANT

REQUIREMENT OF ADEQUATE VERIFICATION. THEY SHARE THE VIEW THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUCH VERIFICATION SHOULD BE BASED ON A COMBINATION OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING THE CREATION OF A CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE. SOME ARRANGEMENTS AND PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN AGREED UPON IN CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 06843 02 OF 02 051522Z

THIS AREA, BUT NO AGREEMENT HAS YET BEEN REACHED ON CERTAIN IMPORTANT ISSUES, INCLUDING SPECIFIC METHODS OF VERIFYING THE DESTRUCTION OF CHEMICAL WEAPON STOCKS AND THE DISPOSITION OF THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION FOR CHEMICAL MUNITIONS AND CHEMICALS COVERED BY THE CONVENTION.

THE CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT IS AWARE OF THE COMPLEXITY OF THE ISSUES INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING AN ADEQUATELY VERIFIABLE DISARMAMENT MEASURE WHICH IS DESIGNED TO ELIMINATE AN ENTIRE CLASS OF WEAPONS FROM THE ARSENALS OF STATES AND WHICH ALSO AFFECTS ONE OF THE MAJOR INDUSTRIES IN MANY COUNTRIES. IT WILL ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT ANY ATTEMPT TO DESCRIBE IN GREATER DETAIL THE PROBLEMS REMAINING AT THIS STAGE COULD COMPLICATE BILATERAL EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THEM.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION ARE AWARE OF THE GREAT IMPORTANCE THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT ATTACH TO THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE CONCLUSION OF A CONVENTION AND WILL CONTINUE THEIR BEST EFFORTS TO COMPLETE THE BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS IMPORTANT AND EXTREMELY COMPLEX PROBLEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. END TEXT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHEMICAL WARFARE WEAPONS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA06843
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780192-0555
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780590/aaaacypg.tel
Line Count: 205
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d5d9cba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2783971
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-USSR CHEMICAL WEAPONS NEGOTIATIONS, SEVENTH ROUND: JOINT STATEMENT TO CCD ON STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS
CW MESSAGE NO. 53
TAGS: PARM, US, UR, CCD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d5d9cba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014